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August 10, 2005 Immediate Release Contact: Florence Higgins, NMED

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## **Environment Department to Offer Free Water Testing in Raton**

(Raton, NM) – The New Mexico Environment Department Raton Field Office will offer free testing of water from private domestic wells on Thursdays in August including the 11, 18, and 25.

The free testing for ph, conductivity, nitrate, fluoride, iron, calcium hardness, and alkalinity will be held from 1 pm -4 pm at the Raton Field Office at 1243 South  $2^{nd}$  Street.

In order to be tested, samples must be at least one quart in volume, freshly drawn from a coldwater tap and brought in a covered, clean glass or plastic container that did not previously contain milk, pickles, juice, or other substances with strong odor. If possible, samples should be collected before passing through any water treatment system, such as a water softener, reverse osmosis, or an activated carbon filter.

For further information contact Florence Higgins at 445-3621 or Jon Goldstein, NMED, Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.

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